AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for distributing electric power, the method comprising:

distributing electric power from a main electric power source and an alternate electric power source to a plurality of selector sites; [[and]]

providing a plurality of selectively energizable independent signal lines to respective selector sites; and

selectively activating one of said signal lines to independently selectively energize a signal-controlled selector at a selector site associated with said one of said signal lines to selectively supply ~~supplying~~ electric power ~~to~~ from said alternate electric power source or from said [[a]] main electric power source ~~to at least one load circuit;~~ to a load circuit. ~~through a signal controlled selector at at least one of said plurality of selector sites.~~

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein distributing comprises conducting current on an electric power distribution conductor in proximity to said plurality of selector sites.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 further comprising supporting said electric power distribution conductor and said plurality of selector sites on a base.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3 further comprising supporting said [[a]] plurality of selectively energizable signal lines on said base to permit said plurality of signal lines to individually carry control signals to respective signal-controlled selectors installed at respective ones of said selector sites.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4 further comprising ~~providing~~ producing at least one control signal for ~~controlling at least one signal controlled selector~~ selectively activating said signal lines.

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6. (Original) The method of claim 5 further comprising supporting on said base a controller operable to produce said at least one control signal.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 [[5]] further comprising supporting on said base a connector in communication with said signal lines for receiving said control signals from a remotely located controller.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising providing overload current protection to said load circuit when electric power is supplied to said at least one load circuit from said alternate electric power source.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising providing a plurality of overload current protection mounting sites in proximity to corresponding selector sites to provide for mounting and connection of overload protection devices in series with said alternate electric power source and respective selector sites.

10. (Currently amended) An apparatus for distributing electric power to a load circuit from a main electric power source and an alternate electric power source, the apparatus comprising:

a base;

an electric power distribution conductor supported by said base for providing electric power from said alternate electric power source; [[and]]

a load circuit selector site on said base ~~and operable to supply~~ for supplying power from said main electric power source and said electric power distribution conductor of said alternate electric power source ~~to a signal-controlled selector installed at said load circuit selector site~~[[.]] ; and

a signal-controlled selector installed at said load circuit selector site, wherein said signal-controlled selector is operable to selectively connect the load circuit to said main electric power

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source or to said electric power distribution conductor in response to a control signal that need not be supplied by said alternate electric power source.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim [[11]] 10 further comprising a plurality of selector sites each having an associated signal-controlled selector and a plurality of signal ~~line~~ lines supported by said base for individually carrying ~~said~~ control ~~signal~~ signals to said signal-controlled ~~selector~~ selectors for individual and independent activation of said signal-controlled selectors.

13. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 12 further comprising a controller for providing said control ~~signal~~ signals for controlling said signal-controlled ~~selector~~ selectors.

14. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein said controller comprises a ~~processor~~ microprocessor circuit ~~supported by said base~~ for determining which signal-controlled selectors are provided said control signals.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13 further comprising a means supported by said base for receiving said control signal from a remotely located controller.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10 further comprising at least one overload current protection mounting site on said base and associated with said load circuit selector site to provide for mounting of an overload current protection device.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16 further comprising an overload current protection device mounted at said overload current protection mounting site.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17 wherein said overload current protection device comprises a circuit breaker.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10 wherein said base supports a plurality of overload current protection mounting sites associated with separate respective load circuits.

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20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19 further comprising a plurality of signal-controlled selectors, each one being installed in a respective load circuit selector site.

21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20 further comprising a controller for providing respective control signals to said plurality of signal-controlled selectors.

22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20 further comprising a connector for receiving respective control signals, and signal lines on said base for communicating said control signals to said plurality of signal-controlled selectors.

23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20 further comprising a plurality of overload current protection mounting sites on said base, each overload current protection mounting site being associated with a respective load circuit selector site to provide for mounting of a respective overload current protection device in said each overload protection mounting site.

24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23 further comprising a plurality of overload protection devices, each one being installed in a respective overload current protection mounting site.

25. (Currently amended) An electric power distribution system comprising:

a first power distribution apparatus for distributing power to individual load circuits from a main power source; and

a second power distribution apparatus adjacent said first apparatus, said second apparatus having a base, an electric power distribution conductor supported by said base for providing electric power from an alternate electric power source and a plurality of load circuit selector [[site]] sites on said base [[and]] , said second power distribution apparatus being operable to supply power from said main electric power source and said electric power distribution conductor to [[a]] signal-controlled selectors ~~selector~~ installed at least at a portion of said load circuit selector [[site]] sites, at least a portion of said signal-controlled selectors being connected

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for activation independent of other ones of said signal-controlled selectors to allow power to be supplied from said electric power distribution conductor to only a selected portion of said individual load circuits.

26. (Currently amended) An apparatus for distributing electric power to a plurality of load ~~circuit~~ circuits from a main electric power source and an alternate power source, the apparatus comprising:

a base;

means supported by said base for providing electric power from said alternate electric power source; and

means for supplying power from said main electric power source and from said means supported by said base to a device on said base for selectively supplying power from said main electric power source to all of said plurality of load circuits or alternatively supplying power from said means supported by said base to ~~said load circuit.~~ any selected portion of said plurality of load circuits.

27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26 wherein said base includes a printed wiring board and said means for supplying power comprises traces on said printed wiring board.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 27 further including a plurality of mounts and traces arranged to form a plurality of selector sites ~~sides~~ on said base to facilitate mounting of a plurality of respective signal-controlled selectors.

30. (Original) The apparatus of claim 29 further comprising means for carrying control signals to said plurality of respective signal-controlled selectors.

31. (Original) The apparatus of claim 30 further comprising means for providing at least one control signal for controlling at least one signal-controlled selector.

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32. (Original) The apparatus of claim 30 further comprising means for receiving said control signals from a remotely located controller.

33. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26 further comprising means for providing overload current protection to said load circuit when electric power is supplied to said load circuit from said alternate electric power source.

34. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26 further comprising means for mounting overload current protection devices on said base for protecting respective load circuits.

35. (New) An apparatus for distributing electric power to a load circuit from a main electric power source and an alternate electric power source, the apparatus comprising:

a base;

a plurality of load circuit selector sites on said base;

an electric power distribution conductor supported by said base for providing electric power from said alternate electric power source to said plurality of load circuit selector sites;

an alternate electric power distribution conductor supported by said base for providing electric power from said main electric power source to said plurality of load circuit selector sites; and

a plurality of selectively actuable independent signal lines on said base extending to respective said load circuit selector sites to carry independent control signals to respective said load circuit selector sites to facilitate independent selective energization of signal-controlled selectors installed at load circuit selector sites to cause load circuits associated with respective selector sites to selectively receive power from said main electric power source or from said alternate electric power source.

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